Meet Patrick Troughton---see page 3!!!

The Prydonian Renegade

The official newsletter of The Prydonians of Prynceton
Volume 2, number 12 February 6, 1986

NEW COMPANION!

Gallifrey East has found out that Nicola Bryant, "Peri" in *Doctor Who*, will be leaving the show some time during the upcoming, 23rd season, which is about to begin production in Great Britain. The character, who joined the show in the middle of the 21rst season in 1984, will have appeared in about twekve episodes, which is a little less than average in recent years. Peri was the first "American" Companion, and despite qualms from some fans when she was added to the TARDIS crew, proved to be so popular with viewers in the United Kingdom that she was drawn into the regular comic strip adventure in *Doctor Who Magazine*, the first time a "real" Companion showed up there.

The new Companion, unnamed as of press time, will be played by Bonnie Langford, a well-known musical performer in England. Langford has very little acting experience, and is, in fact, primarily known as a singer and dancer. She appeared in the original London production of *Cats*. According to the Doctor Who Fan Club of America, many British fans of *Doctor Who* are upset at producer John Nathan-Turner for choosing a non-actress for such an important role, and there are fears that this may hurt the show in the ratings in the fall. According to DWFCA, the feeling in Britain is that Nathan-Turner, a frequent and well-known convention guest in America, wanted a companion he could bring to the States to appear at convention cabarets!

In next month's issue, we hope to have a full biography and photograph of Bonnie Langford.

Dress the New Companion!

Since so far we don't know anything at all about the new Companion, what she will look like, act like, what her name will be, etc., we've decided to have a little fun here at Gallifrey East. Any would-be artists out there? Any smartasses? Any new Calvin de la Rentas? Have you always wanted to create the costumes for *Doctor Who*? Well, now's your chance! Figure out what Bonnie Langford should wear as the new Companion, and either sketch it or create a very detailed written description of her outfit, and send it Gallifrey East, 359 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ, 08540. The contest ends Saturday, March 8, or when we find out exactly what the official BBC Costume is, whichever comes first. Two Prizes will be awarded, the Grand Prize for the best overall proposal, and a Special Prize for the design that comes closest to the actual costume. The decisions will be made by the High Council, and their choices will be final. The winning sketches will be printed in *The Renegade*. In case of a written submission winning, one of the club's artists will be commissioned to turn words into art.

C'mon, gang! You don't want the new Companion to go without clothing, do you?

News from DWIN

The following notes are reprinted directly from *Enlightenment*, the bi-monthly magazine of Canada's Doctor Who Information Network.

American Funding in Future?

It was reported last issue that a likely option should *Doctor Who* continue past fall of this year is co-funding of the series by the "Seven Network" of Australia, which also co-financed "Five Doctors." However, it was confirmed by John Nathan-Turner that although co-financing was being considered, it is American.

Presumably the potential co-financier is Lionheart TV, the US distributor, though this was not made explicit. JNT further stated that such a deal would definitely be entirely a financial one in nature; the BBC would retain all creative control over crews, casting, scripts, etc.

Arrangements for the show's future depend, of course, on whether it has one or not. JNT also stated that, although there was no guarantee the show would continue after the next fourteen episodes, there were no plans (as of late last year) for the series to wrap up this year.

The Twenty-Third Season

The fourteen twenty-five minute episodes that will make up the next season of the program are only six weeks away from beginning rehearsals as you read this. Information about casts, titles, plot-lines, and other details should become widely available in the next few months; at the moment, things are somewhat nebulous. The episodes will be broadcast from September through December in the traditional Saturday time-slot.

The biggest rumor surrounding the stories---that Gallifrey would meet its end at season's end---has been strongly denied by John Nathan-Turner, current producer.

As reported last issue, the season will feature stories centered on the theme of a threat to the existence of Gallifrey. The most likely format is still alternation between 2-part and 4-part stories (2/4/2/4/2), but there is still a possibility that may yet be reduced to four stories, 4-4-4-2. Robert Holmes, now set to write the three 2-parters all set on or around Gallifrey, would still be writing six episodes, the first and the final story. Holmes came up with most of the details of Gallifrey in "Deadly Assassin", and has contributed vital details about the planet in many of his stories. It is still rumored that the Doctor will be put on trial again in the first story.

The first 4-part story, tentatively called "Planet of Sil," seems likely to be the first one to be filmed. It features the Sil creature from last year's "Vengeance on Varos" story, and is written by the same author, Philip Martin. It now has a director, Ron Jones; he directed "Varos" last year, plus "Black Orchid," "Time Flight," "Arc of Infinity," and "Frontios" in the past.

The second 4-part story, previously announced to be written by David Halliwell, a newcomer to the series, has been ditched after repeated re-writes and input from others. Instead, a story by Chris Bidmead will be used. Bidmead wrote "Logopolis," "Castrovalva," and "Frontios," plus was script-editor for Tom Baker's last year ("Leisure Hive" through "Logopolis"). This story---no detail available---was originally considered for use in 1985, then for 1986, then was put aside when the "hiatus" of the show was announced.

The main plotline of the Daleks led by the Master invading Gallifrey is still going ahead at this point.

Other News

Marvel UK has strongly denied rumors about the demise of *Doctor Who Magazine*, as reported last issue. It is stated the title will be continuing, and never was in danger. Speculation arose when the title's sister magazine, *Starburst*, was given the chop, as the two share much the same staff. Editor Cefn Ridout, whose main interest was *Starburst*, has left, and has been replaced by Sheila Cranna, the fifth editor in the magazine's history. The magazine also has a new designer.

Kate O'Mara, who made an impression last year in DW as the villainess "the Rani," made her first appearance January 8 on *Dynasty* as Alexis' sister. According to one American report, though, she may leave the role soon to return to Britain (she prefers its weather to S. California's!), which would leave her available to appear as the Rani again.

Fresh from blaming the hiatus of DW on funding, and then on ratings, Michael Grade has stated it was due to a "complacent" production team, going on to argue that it had lost its wit, imagination, and appeal, and was relying too much on straight violence. Many now suggest that Grade likes s-f, DW included, and the hiatus was a group decision, led by other executives who really do wish to see the show gone for good.

At this point, we'd like to encourage everyone to join DWIN. *Enlightenment* is full of news such as the above, plus reviews, letters, pictures, and all sorts of other neat things. The organisation is run *by* fans *for* fans. Along with The Jersey Jagaroth, we are in the process of applying to be a regional chapter of DWIN for New Jersey. If you are a DWIN member, please let us know. If not, join as soon as you can. Dues are $8 a year. Send to 303 Houghton Avenue South, Hamilton, Ontario, CANADA. One tentative suggestion for the chapter's name is The Garden State Guardians. If you have a better suggestion, send it to Gallifrey East.

Club Stuff

Many thanks to Jennifer Ervin for hosting the meeting last Saturday. Her hospitality is much appreciated.

The March Assembly is going to be held Saturday, March 8, at the home of Allen Lane, 30 Schofield Road, West Milfor, NJ, 201-697-7419. A look at a road map will indicate that this is *way* upstate, near the New York border. This may make it difficult for members from central and southern New Jersey to attend, but on the other hand, it should enable north Jersey Prydonians finally to attend. Directions can be had by calling Allen, the Castellan (609-921-8148), or Lady President Kim Neighbor (609-443-8725). This will be a joint meeting with The Jersey Jagaroth, our cousin club and cricket partners.

If you'd like to host the April Assembly, get in touch with Kim.

On Friday, January 24, we held a "satellite" Assembly in Elkins Park, PA, for Pennsylvania Prydonians who can't easily make it up to New Jersey for our regular Assemblies. Despite the late notice, a number of people showed up for the first time and enjoyed themselves, and we certainly plan to do it again, perhaps in April. Thanks to Steve Cluck for hosting us.

We'd like to do the same thing for our New York City members. If you'd be willing to host twenty or thirty Prydonians in Manhattan or Brooklyn, contact the Castellan.

DWFCA Festival News

If you haven't already gotten your tickets to the March 23 DWFCA Festival in Trenton starring Patrick Troughton, do so *immediately*. Advance ticket sales are exceeding projections, and it looks as if there may be *no* tickets for sale at the door. on't be disappointed, don't risk missing New Jersey's first ever Doctor Who event. You can order tickets by mail by writing Doctor Who Fan Club of America, PO Box 6198, Denver, CO, 80204, or by phone on Mastercard or Visa by calling 303-322-5072 Monday through Friday 11-7 Eastern time. Tickets are $12, but if you mention you're a Prydonian, you'll be charged only $10 a ticket. Get yours now!!!

On the night before the Festival, the Prydonians will be hosting a party, along with the UnEarthly Children and The Jersey Jagaroth, for Patrick Troughton at New Jersey Network's Trenton studio. The party, organized by Prydonian Mimi Oakley and catered by Prydonian Ruth Arcone, a professional chef from New York, is to welcome Patrick Troughton to New Jersey, to introduce him to the area press and to enable him to meet the three clubs' volunteer workers for the Festival. Unfortunately, New Jersey Network's space is *extremely* limited (as you know if you've ever been there for a fundraiser), so it has to be a closed party. But, to enable a member who isn't working the Festival to attend, **we're raffling off one invitation to the party (for a member and one guest of his or her choice) to attend the party on Saturday, March 22, at 5 pm.** Raffle tickets are $3.00 each, all proceeds to go defraying the cost of the party. Send your check to Gallifrey East.

Speaking of New Jersey Network, we have *two* fundraisers coming up real soon. On Saturday March 1, we will be working or New Jersey Network at their Trenton studio. We are sharing the evening with the Jersey Jagaroth (which is why they're sharing their meeting on the 8th with us). We have enough volunteers for March 1, but on Saturday March 15, we will be working for Channel 12, WHYY in Philadelphia from about 3 till 6 pm. We need every volunteer we can get for that. If you're over 16 and you'd like to appear on camera, call Chancellor Dorothy McLaughlin, 215-946-5685.

Speaking about New Jersey Network one more time, we must unfortunately report that their programmers seem to have taken leave of their senses. Their March schedule is as follows:

March 1: "Seeds of Death" (Patrick Troughton)

8: "The War Games," part 1
15: "Time Lash" (Colin Baker)
22: "Revelation of the Daleks" (Colin Baker)
29: "The War Games," part 2

Apparently they have to show the Colin Baker episodes before the end of March, but why they're splitting the two halves of "War Games" by three weeks is beyond me (and beyond Eric Luskin, Prydonian and "the voice of New Jersey Network"). There's notmuch we can do about this. Sorry.

More Upcoming Conventions

There will be Creation Conventions in New York on February 22-23, with Mark ("Turlough") Strickson and James Doohan ("Scotty" from *Star Trek*), at the Roosevelt Hotel, Madison Avenue at 45th Street; and in Philadelphia on March 1 and 2, with Terry Nation (creator of the Daleks and of *Blake's 7*) and James Doohan, at the Philadelphia Centre Hotel on Kennedy Boulevard at 17th Street. Tickets are available from Creation (516-747-2033) or Ticketron.

The Prydonians will have a table at both cons. Stop by and say hello. Buy a T-shirt! Flash your membership card, buy one of our silly badges, and get another one free! See you there!

United We Stand

The Prydonians, UnEarthly Children, and Jersey Jagaroth are the founders of a new Federation of Doctor Who fan clubs called the North East Matrix (NEM). For almost two years now, local clubs in the area have been going their own way, growing, but not really organizing the majority of fans in the area. With the formation of the Matrix we can now pool resources, share activities and information, guard against the kind of competition and feuding that has led to bitter fan club wars elsewhere, and develop a range of services for you, the members, that will make it ever more enjoyable for you to be fans in the area. Among our upcoming projects are a repeat of last year's tremendous joint Prydonians–UnEarthly Children First Birthday Party ("the Great Gallifreyan Gala"), this time with the Jersey Jagaroth and the Gallifreyan Embassy of Long Island. Next year we hope to hold our own fan-run convention. As of now, two more clubs have joined the Matrix, the Gallifreyan Embassy, and the area's newest club, TARDIS Tours, located in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley. We plan to recruit all the major clubs from Delaware to Main. Matrix duties now are limited to exchanging newsletters with other member clubs and trying to coordinate activities, publicizing each other's meetings, etc. As the Matrix grows and begins to *do* things, we'll report more fully on its progress.

One of the first activities the Matrix plans to promote is the organising of a regular series of inter-club cricket matches this spring and summer! The Prydonians and Jagaroth will field a joint team, and have already received tentative confirmations of matches with the Gallifreyan Embassy, the UnEarthly Children, and the New England Time Lord Academy. Any interested Prydonian can play; as soon as the weather turns nicer we will schedule some practice sessions. If you want to start learning how, James Armstrong, Prime Minister of the Jersey Jagaroth and a co-founder of NEM, has put together a brochure on the Doctor's favourite human sport, which can be yours by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: CRICKET, C/O North East Matrix, 51 Mount Pleasant Road, Morristown, NJ, 07960. How's that?

Gallifreyan Embassy Meeting Raided by Police!

On Sunday, January 19, representatives of the Matrix attended the Gallifreyan Embassy's monthly meeting to recruit the Embassy into the Matrix, and also just to attend the meeting. Afterwards, we took them outside and began teaching them how to play cricket on a large vacant lot. After about a half hour, a police car showed up and told us to leave, that a neighbour had called in to complain about what we were doing. There was no lock on the gate, no sign saying "Keep Out," but the cops were insistent, so we broke for the afternoon and left. We did try to give the cops a two-sentence description of what we were doing, but they probably didn't learn much about the game.

The other local clubs will also be having meetings in the near future. **The Jersey Jagaroth** will be meeting Saturday, February 8, at 6:30 pm in Morristown, NJ. For information and directions call 201-895-3260. **The UnEarthly Children**will be holding their February meeting on Saturday, February 15, in northeast Philadelphia. For information, call Michael Cohen at 215-322-1677. We don't have the date of the next meeting of the **Gallifreyan Embassy of Long Island**. If interested, call Lou Tropani at 516-766-6127.

We thoroughly recommend joining each of these clubs, as they are all run by good friends of ours (all of them loyal Prydonians, too!)

From the High Council

The Secret Six...

Not that it's any big secret, but how many of you out there can name more than one or two members of the High Council? That's our fault as much as it is anybody's, so we'd like to rectify it here. Here's who you can call for information or to help out:

Lady President---**Kim Elaine Neighbor**, one of the first members of the club. In charge of arranging meeting sites and programs, volunteer coordination in New Jersey. 50-23 Garden View Terrace, East Windsor, NJ, 08520. 609-443-8725

Chancellor---**Dorothy ("Duffy") McLaughlin**. In charge of coordinating activities in Pennsylvania, conducts meetings, responsible for discipline at club functions. 5 Park Lane, Levittown, PA, 19054. 215-946-5685.

Castellan---**Tom Beck**. Co-founder of club. Director of publications, corresponding secretary, liason with other clubs, convention volunteering. 359 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ, 08540. 609-921-8148.

High Cardinal---**John Brew**. Treasurer and bookkeeper. 1725 Cedarwood Drive, Piscataway, NJ, 08854. 201-752-0726.

Chief Time Controller---**Mimi Oakley**. Long-range planning, special events planning, publicity. 304 Quail Ridge Drive, Plainsboro, NJ.

Archivist---**Martin Gerster**. Trivia expert. 183 Hopewell-Pennington Road, Hopewell, NJ, 08525. 609-466-1361.

Rules and Guidelines on Members' Behaviour

Recent events have forced the High Council to consider a list of mandatory rules governing members behaviour at Assemblies and other official club functions. We are truly sorry to have to spend time and space with such unpleasant matters. No criticism of any particular member's conduct is implied or intended by the following rules.

Conduct, Violations, Penalties

1. Every member's principal concern should be for the comfort and enjoyment of *other members*, not his or her own.

2. Members offering to host an Assembly are opening up their homes (or their parents' homes) to us, and they and their family members should be treated with the utmost possible courtesy, respect, and consideration.

3. Discipline at Assemblies will be enforced by the members of the High Council present, in cooperation with the host(s). High Councillors will have sole authority to maintain order and discipline at Assemblies.

4. Disruption of meetings will not be tolerated. Any member whose behaviour makes it impossible to continue the proceedings of the Assembly will be asked to leave. High Councillors shall have sole discretion to make such decisions.

5. At any official club function, such as a convention or fundraiser where The Prydonians are providing volunteers, members will obey the instructions and directions of the High Councillors present. If you don't, you will not be permitted to volunteer in the future.

6. No harrassment of members or their families will be tolerated at any time for any reason whatsoever. Harrassment is to be defined subjectively: if a member feel he is being harrassed, then he is.

7. Any member violating any of these rules will receive a disciplinary warning from the High Council. A second violation will result in a suspension from the club lasting not less than one month and at least until one day beyond the next Assembly, whichever time period is greater. A suspended member will not be permitted to attend or participate in any club function or activity during the period of his or her suspension. A third violation will result in the expulsion of the member. Any member facing expulsion will have the right to a hearing in front of the entire High Council. Expulsion must be decreed by a unanimous vote of the High Council. The facts of the case, excluding the name of the disciplined member, will be reported in the subsequent *Renegade* .

8. In extraordinary cases, the High Council, by unanimous vote, can decree a greater or lesser penalty for a violation than those dictated in paragraph 7.

9. An expelled member may reapply for membership after six months. He or she will be on probation for the first six months of his or her new membership. Any new violation will result in a second, permanent expulsion.

Guidelines to Follow

The following are guidelines designed to enable members to understand what sort of conduct will not be tolerated and what sort of ambience is to be maintained at Assemblies.

1. All official club functions shall be open to all members in good standing and will be announced in advance in *The Renegade* or in special fliers or by telephone call. As stated in the January *Renegade* , sites for Assemblies and other official functions will be chosen (to the maximum extent possible) so as to permit the maximum number of members possible to attend. To that end, the High Council will not choose Assembly sites which would be impossible for members with physical handicaps to reach. Such sites shall be smoke-free for the duration of the Assembly and shall have reasonable access for the disabled. *In any case, hosts should be telephoned only for directions.* Any other questions about an Assembly should be directed to the High Council.

2. The homes and property of hosts should be treated with extreme gentleness and discretion. *Under no circumstances* should refrigerators, bookcases, personal rooms, etc, or their contents, be touched by members unless they are specifically permitted by the host to do so.

3. Telephone calls to hosts or High Councillor should only be made during normal waking hours, that is, from 10 am to 10 pm. If in doubt, don't call. At all times, conversations should be kept short, to the point, and, above all else, polite.

This list of rules and guidelines is not intended to be exhaustive. We are, in fact, sorry that we should need to present such a list at all. Discussion and comment will be welcome, and good ideas are usually put into practice immediately, but there is not going to be any vote on these matters. The club is not a democracy. The High Council is, in fact, a benevolent dictatorship. It is our experience that clubs don't work any other way. We will listen to any and all points of view, but in the end, we have to make the decisions and carry them out.

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The Archivist's Annals

by Cardinal Martin Gerster

To start this column, I'll print one of the letters I've received since my last article:

> Dear Mr. Gerster:
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> First of all, do you wish to be called Mister, Cardinal, or Martin? In my first and previous letter to you, I asked "what is the light on top of the TARDIS for?" What I wanted to know was, why does it flash when the TARDIS dematerializes? Also, in one of the previous Trivia Contests, the question was " " (which was probably a typo) but the answer was given as "42." How does "42" answer " "? Also, where do you get your information from? I have most of the recent books, also the technical manual, the *Celebration* book, and *The Key to Time* . Plus I've seen Doctors 3,4, and 5, and parts of 1 and 3. How does that compare to your sources of Doctor Who info? Finally, do you know where I can get information on how to run a Doctor Who fan club? Thanks for all your help.
>
> Prydonian Edward Jones

You sure do ask a lot of questions, Edward! Anywho, I prefer being called Martin. Second, I believe the light on top of the TARDIS flashes as a sign that the TARDIS is in fact dematerializing or materializing (twin lights flashed outside the Rani's TARDIS, as well when it dematerialized).

"42" is a running joke from Douglas Adams' *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* trilogy, it supposedly being the answer to "the ultimate question of Life, the Universe, and Everything." It just struck us as a really clever response to our mistake. This won't make much sense unless you've read the books, as most *Doctor Who* fans have (Douglas Adams was once script editor for the program, and wrote two of its funniest episodes, "The Pirate Planet" and "City of Death").

My sources of information are the complete library of novelizations, *Doctor Who: A Celebration*, *Doctor Who: The Key to Time*, both *Programme Guides* and years of watching the show.

About running a fan club: ask the Castellan, he seems to be doing a pretty good job of running this one, doesn't he?

In answer to another member's question, here is a complete list of Colin Baker's stories as the Doctor (including writer and director):

The Twin Dilemma, written by Eric Pringle, directed by Peter Moffat.

Attack of the Cybermen, written by Paula Moore, directed by Matt Robinson.
Vengeance on Varos, written by Philip Martin, directed by Ron Jones.
Mark of the Rani, written by Pip and Jane Barker, directed by Sarah Hellings.
The Two Doctors, written by Robert Holmes, directed by Peter Moffat.
Time Lash, written by Glenn McCoy, directed by Pennant Roberts.
Revelation of the Daleks, written by Eric Saward, directed by Graeme Harper.

Now then, on to my column. We've just seen the advent of Patrick Troughton on our screens as the Doctor without getting to see William Hartnell actually regenerate into him (of the four parts of "The Tenth Planet," William Hartnell's last story, only parts 1-3 and the actual regeneration scene at the end of episode four survive, which is why the BBC hasn't released it), and I therefore wanted to gie my theory about this so-called "regeneration." I say "so-called" because obviously, in "The Tenth Planet," as anyone who has read the book will recognize, nothing happens which *must* lead to a regeneration, such as Jon Pertwee's irradiation in "Planet of the Spiders," or Tom Baker's fall in "Logopolis," or Peter Davison's poisoning in "Caves of Androzani."

This brings me to my own ideas about this act of regenerating. The original thought was that a Time Lord regenerated when he had sustained enough damage to kill a normal humanoid creature; instead of dying, he became a new creature (see Lin Rockler's article last month for more on this). But this can't be the only cause of regenerating, as we saw Romanadvoratrelunder "regenerate" in "Destiny of the Daleks" for no apparent reason, and also there were Time Lords like the Master and (shudder) Morbius who had the ability to control their regenerations. On Gallifrey, Time Lords use Zero Rooms and Metamorphic Symbiosis Generators to control their regenerations, and at the end of "The War Games," they offer the convicted Doctor the right to choose his new body. Time Lord bodies wear out, too, from old age (as witness the exchange in "The Deadly Assassin," where one superannuated Cardinal asks another if it isn't time for him to regenerate again). Regeneration, as with so much else on the show, was born out of necessity, without much thinking through, and only much later was any systematic explanation evolved. It wasn't until "The Deadly Assassin" that the number of allowable regenerations was set at twelve!

(Finally, *Doctor Who* is *not* the only show to use regenerations. American TV must also be populated by exiled Gallifreyans, as both *Dallas* and *Dynasty* have regenerated certain characters; thus, Miss Ellie has been played by both Barbar Bel Geddes and Donna Reed, and Blake Carrington's daughter Fallon has also been portrayed by several actresses! Now that Kate O'Mara is in Denver, who knows what may happen!)

Whew! On a lighter note:

TRIVIA TIME! The winner of the last Trivia Contest is James Harton. Sixteen Prydonians correctly answered the question, "How do the Doctor and his companions understand the language wherever they go?" The correct answer is "It's a Time Lord gift, which the Doctor shares with his companions." From the Tom Baker episode "The Masque of Mandragora." James' name was drawn from the hat, and he wins the prize, a Target paperback novelisation.

I should point out that this Time Lord gift doesn't always seem to hold, as in "Four to Doomsday," where Tegan (!) spoke the language of the Australian aborigines and the Doctor didn't! And in "The Mind of Evil," the Doctor wouldn't let the Brigadier in on his conversation with the Chinese diplomat. Oh well.

This month's Trivia Question is: After the Doctor met Zoë, before he took her on board the TARDIS, he tried to warn her about the dangers of being a companion by using the Scanner to show her one of his adventures (which permitted the BBC to re-run a popular episode). Which episode did the Doctor screen for Zoë?"

Send your answers to Cardinal Martin Gerster, 183 Hopewell-Pennington Road, Hopewell, NJ, 08525, or telephone me at609-466-1361.

Until next time, remember me to Gallifrey!

ΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛ

The One That Almost Got Away

(condensed from *The Gallifreyan Sportsman*)

by Deborah Lee

The rustle of multi-coloured leaves broke the stillness of the brisk Durhamshire morning. A side gate in the wall of Jarrow Monastery opened and a young monk emerged. He walked for a bit and then stopped and took in a lungful of the crisp northcountry air. This was his favourite time of the year. Feeling around his rope belt to make sure he'd brought along his lunch, he turned for the path that led to the river.

A beloved hymn burst to his lips and, humming joyfully, the monk made his way along the edge of the placid river. Suddenly, he stopped short as his dark eyes fell upon a strange looking object almost hidden among the tangle of bushes. It was a tall blue box. On one side was a legend, written in Latin letters but completely incomprehensible to the monk. "Police Public Call Box." Several of the words *almost* sounded like Latin, but none completely so. "What is a...call box" he wondered to himself. This object

hadn't been here the last time he strolled through this area! Then, a soft clicking sound came to his ars, followed by a whirr and then a splash. It came from around the bend of the river, and, careful not to make a sound, the monk hurried to its source.

There he saw a strangely dressed man leaning against the grassy bank. His floppy hat was draped over his eyes. He appeared to be dozing. Then, sensing he wasn't alone, he lifted his hat. With bright blue eyes he studied his visitor. He took in the monk's brown robe, tied at the waist by a simple rope. On his feet the monk wore only simple leather sandals.

Thoughtfully, the stranger looped his exceedingly long, multi-coloured scarf around his neck once more, and smiled at the young monk. "Hello, I'm the Doctor. I say, isn't this a beautiful morning. Would you care to join me in some fishing?"

"Fishing? Is that was you're doing? I wondered what that thing you're holding was." He joined the Doctor on the bakn. "My name is Bede."

"Nice to meet you, Bede." The Doctor held out his hand. "Actually, I haven't really caught anything yet." He reeled in the line. "This rod and reel are supposed to be the best made in England."

"That flimsy thing?" Bede stood up and went off into the wood. A minute or so later he returned with a long branch, out of which he was soon able to fashion a crude pole. Borrowing some of the Doctor's line (and wondering silently at its composition) Bede attached it to his own rod. Next he reached into his leathern lunch pouch and produced some cheese, which he tied to the end of the line. Dropping the end into the river, he sat down beside the Doctor and began to troll.

A few minutes passed, when there came a sharp tug on Bede's line, and the pole bent greatly. The Doctor started arguing with Bede over how best to land the prize. Finally, Bede managed to work an enormous salmon up onto the bank.

For once in his life, the Doctor was truly impressed. "I say!" he exclaimed as the fish thrashed around on the grass. "Look at the size of that one. That's got to be the granddaddy of them all!"

Bede was startled. "That one? Oh my, not at all, Doctor, this is one of the smaller ones I've landed!" He looked at the Doctor's large and mysterious collection of lures, flies, and other unfamiliar devices. "I don't know what all that stuff is, but I do know that all you need is fresh goat's cheese to catch fish around here."

"Bede," the Doctor said formally, "you are a master at the venerable art of fishing. Would you care to join me for lunch? And would you mind giving me some lessons?"

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The Red Planet

by Debbie Barnum

[Last month: In attempting to get to the home planet of Liposhadenari, an alien now travelling with the Doctor and Peri, the TARDIS insttead arrives in a bleak, desert landscape. Outside, the Doctor observes a very rare stone and comments on the planet's magnetic pull---and then a scream attracts their attention.]

Part Two

"Help!!" the call came again, ending in a strangled cry. The two girls ran after the Doctor as he rounded the boulder. A large, hairy humanoid was hunched over a smaller figure. The Doctor jumped the larger being, but the beast was too strong for him it got away before anyone could get a good look at it. The figure on the ground, though, was a young girl wearing torn, tattered clothes that had at one time been regal. Her mud-stained face could not hide the beauty behind it. "Thank you," she said quietly.

"Who are you?" Peri asked gently.

The girl took a halting breath. "I was...AM...leader of my people and of this planet." She paused. "I am Princess Cerise, of the royal line of Alto."

The Doctor wiped his hands on his coat and approached her. "And your friend?" he asked, pointing over his shoulder with his thumb.

"That was one of the servants of the Shining Ones, the merciless killers who have overrun our world. This," she indicated with a sweep of her arm, "was not always so desolate. Yonder, there stood an immense red forest in years past. And here where we sit was the great lake Xanitar. My palace was...there," she muttered, pointing sadly at an imposing mountain of rubble. Large birds of prey wheeled overhead. Peri shuddered. Shad looked away.

"So your people live underground now?"

"Yes."

"Hmmm." The Doctor stood a few seconds in silent argument with himself. "All right, I agree."

"Agree to what?" asked Cerise; the other two girls' faces mirrored her puzzlement.

"Why, to help you get your planet back, of course! Come on, we haven't got much time! How do we get underground from here?"

Confused, Cerise nevertheless knew enough to keep her wits. "How do I know I can trust you?"

"You don't," the Doctor said carefully. Cerise closed her eyes for a moment, then opened them and nodded. She stood up and began to traverse the sand. The travellers followed until she stopped at a small mound. Waving her hands above it in a stylized pattern, the young princess recited a short phrase in a sing-song voice. There was a click, and a round panel some five feet across swung down to reveal a ladder leading downward.

At that moment, though, Cerise stopped, her eyes growing wider. "The Shining Ones approach!" she hissed.

"I don't hear any--" Shad began, but the Doctor shushed her.

"There *is* something coming!" he whispered. Suddenly, they could all hear faint sounds of a large group coming toward them across the sand. Cerise, seemingly exhausted and terrified, could no longer take the strain. She fell to the ground in a dead faint."

to be continued...

The Doctor's Dictionary

by Michael Cohen and Tom Beck

Colonization: the action of regenerating into the Sixth Doctor.
Patronization: the action of regenerating into the Second Doctor
Petrification: the action of regenerating into the Fifth Doctor.

Perigrinatinon: the action of travelling around the Universe wearing almost no clothing at all.
Zoology: the care and feeding of female Time Travelers.

Smile and Be a Villain

by Tom Freeman

The Master is undoubtedly the best-loved (and/or loathed) villain of *Doctor Who*. Although he hs had formidable competition from giant spiders, outraged Egyptian gods, holistic helixes and alien invaders of every shape and form, megalomaniacal generals and mad scientists of every conceivable description, as well as entire graduating classes of Prydon Academy ready to turn traitor at a moment's notice, the Master remains at the head of that small army of fiends who have tried, some more than once, to destroy the Doctor. Despite the fact that he has only appeared in seventeen stories, the black-hearted Time Lord has established a hold on the imagination of the show's audience unrivalled by anyone else except the Doctor himself.

There are many reasons for the character's success, but the largest ones are the performances of the two actors most closely associated with the role: Roger Delgado and Anthony Ainley. For, in fact, the Master is a difficult character to portray and unless he is very well acted can easily become either boring or ridiculous. The Master is almost totally evil, with few (if any) morally redeeming features, and this means that the actor is constrained to perform within a restricted range of emotions. The Master cannot fall in love (neither can the Doctor), cannot show tenderness, pity, or regret for the suffering he causes. He is an essentially simple character, for all his deviousness, always pursuing the same goals, such as power or revenge, in the most direct and ruthless manner. As a result, he is a completely predictable character. If the Doctor has an enemy at his mercy and must kill him to save his own life and those of his companions, there is genuine suspense: we really have no sure idea what the Doctor will do. Does anyone doubt what the Master would do in a similar situation? No painful dilemmas or intense soul-searching for the Master: he will always take the selfish and self-serving course.

That Delgado and Ainley were able to transcend these limitations so successfully would seem to place them beyond the range of adverse criticism. But such is not the case. There is an increasing tendency recently to disparage Ainley's performances and compare them unfavourable to Delgado's. Disagreements about the relative merits of various performers and performances in any medium are inevitable and no-one can really argue with another person's tastes. I am not going to say that those who prefer Delgado to Ainley are necessarily wrong; rather, I will try to rebut some of the cavils that are, in my opinion, ill-founded and to present some reasons to prefer Ainley's performances.

Perhaps the most common criticism is that Ainley overacts, that his Master is too melodramatic. If by this it is meant that his performances are at times larger than life and that in reality villains do not run around chuckling mirthlessly and rubbing their hands together in transports of joy at their own diabolical cunning, then it is perhaps a fair cop. But then, why should Ainley alone be singled out for censure here? Most of the villains in *Doctor Who* are larger–than–life fantasy figures and many of them were no less flamboyantly acted than Ainley's Master. Christopher Gable's deservedly acclaimed portrayal of Sharaz Jek was curtain-chewing in the grand manner, but how else can you play such a character? Similarly, there is no way to underplay a being who is literally holding the Universe to ransom or hatching plans for galactic conquest. Flamboyance is precisely what the part demands.

It might be pointed out that Roger Delgado was more restrained in his performance. But several things should be borne in mind here. For one thing, Delgado played against Jon Pertwee, the most colourful and outgoing of all the Doctors. Delgado's slightly understated and more quietly menacing Master provided an excellent foil for the Third Doctor, whereas a more expansive archenemy would have clashed with Pertwee's bravura style. Ainley, on the other hand, most often faced off against the Fifth Doctor, played by the quiet and thoughtful Peter Davison. His dynamic and vital Master has often provided needed pyrotechnics. A good example of this is "The King's Demons," wherein Ainley's vivid and colourful acting is about the only enjoyable thing in the episode. It is true that

Ainley appeared against the vivid and eccentric Colin Baker, but in "Mark of the Rani" his performance was noticeably more restrained as his character was sharing the spotlight with the Rani.

It should also be remembered that usually the schemes of Delgado's Master were on a much smaller scale than those of his successor. The former was mostly preoccupied with the conquest of Earth, the latter has been bent on subjecting the Universe (with the occasional exception in each case). In an episode such as "Logopolis," perhaps Ainley's best performance as the Master, where the story led to an apocalyptic escalation of the traditional conflict between Doctor and Master, only a larger than life performance would do justice to the script.

Another criticism I come across frequently is that Ainley's Master, in contrast to Delgado's, is humorless and lacking in charm. Charm, of course, is in the eye of the beholder and I can say little about this except to observe that the Master is still, as he always has been, urbane, polished, and exudative of a certain presence (I'm reminded of the *MAD* magazine contrast between the impeccable manners of the traditional movie villain and the swinish loutishness of the typical tough-guy hero; fits the Masters and Doctors to a T). But the claim that Ainley as the Master is humorless is absurd and one can only assume that those voicing this criticism have never seen such priceless moments as the Master meeting the High Council in "The Five Doctors," and accepting as a choice compliment their labelling him the most corrupt Time Lord ever, or his feigned death in "The King's Demons," or his verbal duels with the Rani, or his suavely sinister negotiations with the Doctor in "Time Flight" and "The Five Doctors."

Lastly, it is often stated that Delgado was given better scripts to work with. There is an element of truth in this remark, but it doesn't really hold water. Delgado never gave a bad performance, but several of his scripts were flawed. "The Mind of Evil" consists of two separate stories very imperfectly joined together. "Colony in Space" drags along tediously for several episodes until the Master appears, and then we get some good scenes between Pertwee and Delgado. Finally, "The Time Monster" undermines one of Delgado's finest performances with a weak script and risible special effects (who can forget watching the mighty civilization of Atlantis being destroyed by a papier-mache chicken?)

Ainley, on the other hand, has appeared (again, without ever giving a bad performance) in episodes ranging from a few true classics ("Logopolis", "Mark of the Rani") to very good stories ("The Keeper of Traken," "Castrovalva," "The Five Doctors") to good ("Planet of Fire") to acceptable ("Time Flight") to lousy ("The King's Demons"). To sum up, both have enjoyed a preponderance of good scripts and episodes, with each having to suffer one or two inferior products.

Even so, there is a basic difference in the series of scripts each performed in. Roger Delgado was part of the Barry Letts stock company. During the UNIT years a small ensemble cast of regulars and semi-regulars performed in a series of roughly similar scripts. For all its strengths, this system also had its weaknesses, notably that of predictability (Malcolm Hulke, when told that the show was to be set on Earth for the forseeable future, said "Great. Now you only have two stories to do: invasion from outer space and mad scientists." For the first three years, that was largely the case). One of the reasons the first two seasons with Tom Baker provided such a sense of novelty and adventure was that they broke out of this mold. But it had the signal advantages of establishing real continuity of the characters and it gave the actors a chance to refine and deepen their portrayals. The result was a genuinely fine grasp of character by all concerned with the show. This is particularly noticeable in scenes such as the bit in "The Sea Devils" where during an attempt at detente with the Doctor, the Master offers his hand to his adversary, who almost, but doesn't quite, accept it, at which the Master grins, ruefully and awkwardly. That said volumes about their relationship, and is only possible in a situation where characters deal with each other frequently. This has been much rarer in the Turner-Saward era with its scant concern for continuity, even for major characters.

Nonetheless, Ainley has brought many special qualities to his interpretation of the Master, which in my opinion make his performances even more enjoyable than Delgado's. His versatility is remarkable. Ainley has kept the all too predictable Master from growing stale by skillfully and variously emphasizing different elements in his character. In "Logopolis" he was calculating and obsessed, in "Castrovalva" passionate and vengeful, in "Time Flight" cold and menacing, in "The King's Demons" charming and almost mischievous, in "The Five Doctors" clever and manipulative, and in "Mark of the Rani" sly, ruthless, and devious. Add to this list his convincingly benign portraits of Tremas and the Portreeve, and you begin to perceive the extent of his range and talents.

He has also brought to the role a fine sense of timing and considerable wit, which often make what would have been forgettable scenes sparkle and come to life (for example, his confrontation with the Rani and attempts to recruit her to his cause). He has considerable presence, often dominating scenes in which he has appeared along with such forceful performers as Colin Baker and Kate O'Mara. In fact, the combination of superb timing and personal magnetism is probably a major reason for the claim that he overacts. His physical attributes, his piercing eyes, erect carriage, and mellifluous voice, convey the immpression of nobility, yet his dramatic skills and sense of comedy enable him to suggest that this outward dignity is hollow and spurious.

Yet, valuable as all these qualities are, Ainley also contributes something even more important to the show, a sense that whatever his success or the lack of it, in whatever he does, *the Master is having fun.* This may be a personal quirk, but I have always preferred villains who enjoyed their work to their more lugubrious colleagues, those who are in it as much for the enjoyment of deviltry and intrigue as for the tangible rewards. Ainley's Master is full-fledged member of this company, an essentially romantic figure, perpetually delighted with the Byzantine complexities of his schemes. Remember his disappointment in "Castrovalva," when he thought his first plan would succeed in destroying the Doctor and that he wouldn't get the opportunity to use his second, vastly more intricate scheme? He woule claim that he is only after power and revenge, but he is also obviously enthralled with the potential for luxuriating in deviousness. Villainy is not a means to an end with him, it is an end in itself.

Oddly enough, this almost makes him likable. Everyone loves a lover, they say, even if he is only in love with his work, and when Ainley's Master is clearly enjoying his vocation, as when he destroyed the Doctor's fourth incarnation or annihilated a squad of Cybermen, it is hard not to share his relish. This quality makes the Master a truly special villain, and although it was certainly present in Delgado's performances, this exuberant evildoing has been the particular hallmark of Anthony Ainley.

Any fictional character, on whatever level he may be appreciated, can begin to assume a certainl life of his own. If I close my eyes now and think about him, I can see Anthony Ainley appearing as the Master, stalking his opponent in some dark alley, Tissue Compression Eliminator at the ready, chuckling mirthlessly and saying softly but emphatically to himself "My dear Doctor, don't you know I'm indestructible?" I can only hope he is.

Shirts 'r' Us!

Unfortunately. We've still got about seventy "Prydonians of Prynceton" T-shirts left, just waiting for you to buy. Bright red, with our neon logo on the front and Ork the Seal on the back, just the thing you need to make every Arcalian and Patrexe around turn bright *chartreuse* with envy. Only $8 ($10 by mail), in small, medium, large, and extra-large (adult sizes). Pick one up at one of the upcoming conventions!

Empty TARDIS

Participation on our club computer bulletin board hasn't yet picked up very much. A few new users, but still the response to this new club service is kind of disappointing. Oh well, those members who *have* logged on have enjoyed it a lot. The best contribution so far comes from Martin Cripps, who wrote the following in our ongoing discussion about favourite Doctor-Companion *pairs*: "My pick would be the Third Doctot and Herb, as they could never agree on where to eat."

For those of you eager to get in on the fun, call The TARDIS BBS (wheron our own section is located) at 609-448-1361, 24 hours a day, 300-1200-2400 baud. Log on, establish an account, then leave an E-mail message for "The Castellan" and state your name, handle, account number, and date of membership in The Prydonians. You'll be given access to the club-only message section.

The Red Planet

by Debbie Barnum

[In part two: After rescuing the Princess Cerise, the time travellers gain her confidence and are taken to the entrance of an underground city where the Altons now live. Suddenly, they hear sounds of the "Shining Ones"---harsh conquerors of the once tranquil planet---approaching. Unable to cope with the strain, Cerise faints.]

Part Three

"Hurry!" the Doctor whispered loudly, almost pushing Peri down the ladder with his foot as they rushed to the bottom. He then carefully lowered the princess feet first into the opening. Groaning from the weight, Peri and Shad almost dropped her, but managed to lay her down.

The Doctor, meanwhile, was balancing himself on the chain ladder, one arm entwined in the shining links. Cautiously and curiously, he repeated the actions and song which Cerise had used to open the trap door. With a faint humming sound, the panel closed again. He jumped down, and as he did, the rumbling of speech floated through from above. "Those voices...sound so familiar..."

"Come on, Doctor, we don't want to stand here forever!"

"Sorry, Peri," he smiled sheepishly. "I'll carry her."

"You'll have to, I certainly can't lift her."

"I'm surprised you can even lift yourself," he muttered. Taking Cerise in his arms, he started down the wide hallway. Peri looked daggers at his broad back. Shad wondered what sort of crew she had stumbled into.

The walls looked as if they were made of pink aluminum, and there were very few embellishments. Now and again a smaller passageway would open up to one side or another, but the Doctor never deviated from the main corridor.

"All these corridors look the same to me," said Peri. "Almost as random as the TARDIS interior. How do you know where we're going, Doctor?"

"I have an unerring sense of direction, Peri, as you should know by now. Now *do* be quiet, will you, and let me concentrate?"

After what seemed like an eternity of wandering through a dead maze, they approached what appeared to be the double doors of a conference room. Two guards flanked the entrance, each wearing majestic heliotrope uniforms fringed with ruby piping. They carried unfamiliar but fearsome-looking weapons. Bold as ever, the Doctor marched straight up to them and demanded admission.

"What have you done to the Princess?" one of them demanded, horrified.

Peri, who had found a pebble in her shoe, and had dropped a little behind to remove it, suddenly heard shouts and scuffling, and ran towards the doors, only to find Shad and the Doctor surrounded by furious and petrified guards, being herded into the conference room at gun and spearpoint, the Doctor's loud protests going completely unheeded.

to be continued...

|_| If this box is checked, you must renew your dues by the end of this month!

THE PRYDONIAN RENEGADE is published monthly by The Prydonians of Prynceton Doctor Who Fan Club of Gallifrey East, 359 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ, 08540, phone 609-921-8148. Membership is $6.00 per year per household. Prospective members are entitled to one free issue. Prydonian Assemblies are held on the first Saturday of each month. The club runs a computer bulletin board on The TARDIS BBS, 609-448-1361. The Prydonians of Prynceton are an official Charter Chapter of the Doctor Who Fan Club of America (DWFCA), and a member of the North East Matrix and the APC Net. Honk if you read these lines.